Paper No. 23

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
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PAT. & T.M. OFFICE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

DIRECTOR OFFICE TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

Application No. 09/203,672

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on July 17, 2002. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

On April 24, 2000 and June 9, 2000, appellants filed Information Disclosure Statements (Paper Nos. 7 and 9). It is not clear from the record whether the examiner considered the Information Disclosure Statements submitted or whether the

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examiner notified appellants of why their submission did not meet the criteria set forth in 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that this application be returned to the examiner for: 1) consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements (Paper Nos. 7 and 9); 2) appropriate notification by the examiner to appellants of such consideration; and 3) for such further action as may be appropriate.

It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences be informed promptly of any action affecting the status of this appeal (i.e., abandonment, issue, reopening prosecution).

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS

AND INTERFERENCES

Program and Resource Administrator

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DMS/tdl/mh RA02-0101